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### UM debate team wins in regional competition

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## NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 28, 2007

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### UM DEBATE TEAM WINS IN REGIONAL COMPETITION

#### MISSOULA —

The University of Montana Debate Team won several awards at the Western States Communication Association annual tournament Feb. 16-18 in Seattle.

The tournament draws teams from across the Western United States.

Svein Newman of **Billings** and Jessica Reynolds of **Helena** finished in second place overall, losing only to a team from Northern Arizona University. Their final-round debate was about non-physician assisted suicide.

In the Junior Division, newcomers Matt Meade of **Belgrade** and Michael Nevas of **Missoula** finished third.

The team won several speaking awards. Reynolds received the First Place Speaker award, Newman received fifth and Sam Trammell of **Belgrade** received sixth. Meade won third in the Junior Division and Jennifer Elliott of **Missoula** won eighth in the Novice Division.

Upcoming team events include two national tournaments. Newman and Reynolds will attend the National Parliamentary Tournament of Excellence March 16-18 in

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Laramie, Wyo. Only teams that receive special invitations based on national rankings may attend this tournament. Newman and Reynolds currently are ranked 20th in the nation among 700 teams.

The National Parliamentary Debate Association National Tournament will be held March 22-25 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

For more information about the UM Debate Team, call Ryan Morton at 406-243-4551 or e-mail [ryan.morton@mso.umt.edu](mailto:ryan.morton@mso.umt.edu).

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